MR. CHAIRMAN: If everybody speaks, things will be difficult.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: There are two simple criteria.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

DR. R. K. PODDAR: I want to have a comparison of the three steel plants at Durgapur, Bhilai and Rourkela with regard to the energy and man-hours required to produce one tonne of steel.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: As far as profitability is concerned, Bokaro is still the best. Durgapur is not that good compared to Bokaro.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His question is with reference to energy-efficiency.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: On the aspect of energy-efficiency, more or less it is equally good. Durgapur, because of the poor raw materials and the non-availability of upgraded equipments is not that good. Bokaro is the best in comparison to the others.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What about the Indian technology being able to absorb the latest technology?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, as you know, Bokaro is a 'Swadeshi' plant. Almost 80 per cent of the machinery are indigenous. Now we are having indigenous machinery constructed within our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you agree with him that we can absorb the latest technology.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Yes.

*245: [*Transferred to the 26th March, 1992*].

*246. [*The questioner (Prof. Sourin Bhattacharya) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 43-44, infra].

*247. [*The questioner (Shri Jagadish Jani) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 44-45 infra].

बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र

*248. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र में कितना उत्पादन हुआ और संयंत्र के लाभ-हानि का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) आगामी दो वर्षों के लिये उसके उत्पादन का प्रत्याशित लक्ष्य क्या है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Bokaro Steel Plant

(a) The production of Bokaro Steel Plant during the last two years is as under:—

(in lakh tonnes)

Years	Hot Metal	Crude Steel	Saleable Steel
1989-90	32·00	26·54	23·25
1990-91	32.67	28·06	24.26
1991-92 (Likely)	33·40	34·00	27·00

The net profit (before tax) of Bokaro Steel Plant for the last two years is as under:—

(Rs./Crores)

1989-90	253·82
1990-91	179·57
1991-92 (Likely)	190·00

(b) The production target of Bokaro Steel Plant in the next two years is as under:—

(in lakh tonnes)

Years	Hot Metal	Crude Steel	Saleable Steel
1992-93	37·00	35·00	28·98
1993-94	42·50	38·00	30·90

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : सभापति जी, बहुत कम ऐसे सवाल होते हैं जिनका जवाब आये तो उस पर सरकार को बधाई देने का मन करे । जो हमारे पास सरकार का उत्तर आया है इसके लिए सबसे पहले मैं बोकारो के कर्मचारियों को, श्रमिकों को, बोकारो के पदाधिकारियों को, इंजीनियरों को और स्टील मिनिस्टर साहब को भी धन्यवाद देता हूं । इसलिए कि जहां सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रों में जो भी हमारे कारखाने हैं चाहे वह किसी भी सयंत्र के हों वहां लगातार घाटा चल रहा है ।

बोकारो एक ऐसा स्टील प्लान्ट है जिसके बारे में सरकार ने जो फीगर दी है उसके अनुसार लगातार प्रोडक्शन में भी वृद्धि हो रही है और मुनाफा भी होता चला जा रहा है और सबसे अच्छी बात यह है कि बिहार में जो भी चीजें होती हैं उनकी बदनामी होती है । लेकिन बिहार में बोकारो एक ऐसा कारखाना है जिसके बारे में खुद मनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान में सबसे ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन और प्रोफिट बोकारो से होता है ।

Therefore, I am congratulating you and through you, the whole Bokaro Steel Plant, and also the labourers and engineers. Now, I only want to know from you, Mr. Minister, that you have already raised the prices of steel in past. Your production is also increasing. But why you have given the figures in your answer as stated below?

Profit for 1989-90—Rs. 253.82 crores.
Profit for 1990-91—Rs. 179.57 crores.
Profit for 1991-92—Rs. 190 crores.

When your production is increasing and you have also increased the levy, why your profit is going down? May I know this thing from you?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, as I said earlier, it is a fact that the profit has gone down. But it is not a fact that we have increased the levy. Except the excise duty, no increase has been made by the Steel Ministry after September, 1990. Now we have got on our shoulders burden of increased input cost of Rs. 1500 per tonne because of the

increase in the railway fare and freights, devaluation, rate of interest of the banks and also because the power rates have gone up. Previously, the Government was to take the decision. But after the decontrol, now the Steel Companies can take their decision. But we have requested them not to do it immediatly because of the fact that we do not want price rise. Because of the new decontrol policy, we are allowing imports so that there is no shortage in the market and the prices are stabilised. You are very much right that despite the increase in production, the profit has gone down. But I am sure, in due course of time, this scenario will change and then I will join you in extending my congratulations to the employees of the Bokaro Steel Plant. In spite of the fact that there are various unions, the employees are very very responsible and are working very hard irrespective of the type of unions that they have. I must congratulate them for this.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : सभापति जी, जैसा मंत्री महोदय ने कहा, उससे पूरा संतोष मुझे नहीं हुआ । हालांकि इनका नाम संतोष मोहन देव है और नाम के अनुसार मैं चाहता था कि मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर भी संतोषजनक होता । मैं कोई अर्थशास्त्री नहीं हूं, इसलिए मैंने सीधा सा सवाल किया था कि जब आपका प्रोडक्शन बढ़ा है और जब आपकी कीमत बढ़ी है तो फिर प्रोफिट क्यों नहीं बढ़ा ?

श्री संतोष मोहन देव : कीमत अभी नहीं बढ़ी है । बाद में सब में बढ़ेगी तो मालूम हो जाएगा ।

श्री सभापति : आपकी बात उन्होंने सुन ली है । उस पर वे विचार करेंगे ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि स्टील अथोरिटी आफ इंडिया के वर्तमान में कितने ऐसे कारखाने हैं, संयंत्र हैं, जहां आपको प्रोफिट हो रहा है और कौन कौन से ऐसे कारखाने हैं जहां आपको नुक्सान हो रहा है ? जिन कारखानों से नुक्सान होता है उनकी तीन साल की फीगर क्या हैं और उस नुकसान को आप लाभ में बदलने के लिए कौन-सी कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, we have got five integrated steel plants and nowhere currently we are making losses. In other plants the quantum of profit is less in comparison to Bokaro Steel Plant. The Burnpur works of IISCO, which is a subsidiary of the Steel Authority, was making losses, but this year, it will also earn profit. The overall situation in the Ministry of Steel is much better than it was four or five years back and we are not incurring any loss, but if you take the total working capital and the expenditure of the Vizag Steel Plant which is also a separate company, there are certain losses. These are because of the interest burden. Now we are doing the capital restructuring and thereby the Vizag Steel Plant will also turn the corner very soon, but I don't have the details with me. I will give the hon. Member later.

श्री अजीत जोगी : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि जितने भी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के इस्पात संयंत्र हैं, उनमें बोकारो सर्वश्रेष्ठ है । म यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या बोकारो की तुलना निजी क्षेत्र में जो ख्याति प्राप्त स्टील प्लांट हैं, टिस्को, उससे की गयी है ? यदि निजी क्षेत्र के टाटा आइरन एंड स्टील प्लांट से उसकी तुलना की जाय . . .

श्री सभापति : तो क्या स्थिति है ।

श्री अजीत जोगी : तो इन दोनों की तुलना में यह कितना दक्ष है लाभ के मामले में इसकी क्या स्थिति है और प्रति मिलियन टन स्टील बनाने के लिये दोनों में कितना व्यय हो रहा है ?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, it is a fact that TISCO is doing well. The main reason is, TISCO has got as a captive mine the best iron-ore of the country and they have also got the best prime coking coal within the country. They need not import so much of coking coal as we do and which also add to our cost. Apart from that, they have got their captive power plant which can cater to their needs even if there is a power failure in the grid. So if you compare TISCO with others, it will not be proper. But our Plants are also doing well and the figure of the total profit of TISCO is not with me because it is a private organisation; I don't keep it. If you want, I can collect and lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't have any intention of having captive power plants?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, we do have captive power plants But... *(Interruptions)*... now we are also trying to have newer and more efficient captive power plants. This is our present attempt.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good.

श्री अजीत जोगी : लाभ के मामले में फिगर्स क्या है ?

श्री सभापति : फिगर्स नहीं हैं उनके पास ।

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Sir, it is stated that the Bokaro Steel Plant is under modernisation to augment its production. The modernisation is being undertaken by the erstwhile USSR. One of the reasons to enter into a deal for modernisation with the USSR is that there is a facility for rupee payment. But there is a distoration in the rupee payment. The protocol rate of rouble is Rs. 37 whereas in the international market a dollar is costing something like 150 to 250 roubles. Therefore, one rupee fetches 15 to 25 roubles. But at the same time we are paying Rs. 37 for each rouble. Therefore, there is a huge drain on our economy on account of payments to the erstwhile USSR States. I would like to know what steps are being taken by the Government to redress this anomaly? Were there any parleys with the erstwhile USSR States or with the independent States of the Commonwealth to redress the anomaly in the rupee-rouble payment vis-a-vis the rupee-dollar payment and to save our economy?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I am coming to that. So far as we are concerned, we have been told by the Finance Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry that discussions are going on and the result will be known very soon. I do not know further details. The Finance Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry will be able to give them. But discussions are going on from our side with that country and some decision will be taken very soon.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the total installed capacity of the Bokaro Steel Plant is. What is the percentage of steel production of this Bokaro Steel Plant? If it works on full capacity, i.e. hundred per cent, what will be its production and what will be the profit?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am quoting the list.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; he wants to know about Bokaro. What is the percentage of working capacity and what will be the profit if it is worked on hundred per cent?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: We are achieving 83 per cent now as compared to 90 per cent in other plants. The combined chart is also with me. This is a big chart, I can...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is 100 per cent, how much will you produce? From 83 per cent if you go to 100 per cent...

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Four million tonnes.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: When will it be achieved?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: We are hoping to achieve it in the course of another two years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hundred per cent?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: As near hundred per cent, as possible, decided by more than ninety per cent.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, it is known to all of us through documentary evidence that steel was decontrolled in response to the directives from the IMF and the World Bank. Now, they have complied with the directives. I would like to know from the Government as to what advantages are seen to have flowed from the decontrol.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So far as steel is concerned, steel from Bokaro plant.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Of course, including Bokaro, because he is threatening to increase the prices of steel which have already gone up by Rs. 700 to Rs. 900.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His question is: Will you be increasing the prices of steel from the Bokaro Steel Plant because of the World Bank directives? I have summarised it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Thank you for helping me and widening the plinth of the question, Sir.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I know the feeling of Mr. Jaipal Reddy and his perception of the World Bank. So far as I am concerned and my Ministry is concerned, in 1985 BICP (Bureau of Industrial costs and Prices) was asked by the Government of India to have an in-depth study into the Steel Sector and to give a report on what are the steps to be taken to make it viable as many of the Members stated that the costs of production were more, the input costs should be reduced and such things. They recommended decontrol of steel; they recommended delicensing of steel industry—it is not the World Bank—and as per that during your Government's time they went to the Cabinet and during Chandra Shekhar Government's time also they went to the Cabinet and the Cabinet gave certain directions and some of the directions were given during your Government's time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But what about your Government?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: This is not by the World Bank. I hope you were not guided then by the World Bank. Accordingly, in totality...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir,.... ....

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Kindly take your seat. Let me finish. It was the thinking of the Government of India that if decontrol and delicensing are done the private sector can come. As I said, previously steel was in public sector only and because of constraints of funds the Government could not go in for those public sector steel plants in Karnataka and Orissa. Fund constraints were there. The basic reason for decontrol and delicensing is that. We have been welcoming the private sector to have joint undertakings or independent steel plants; otherwise it cannot be improved. I am happy to inform you that your Janata Government in Orissa is having a tie-up with a caparo group from London to have their steel plants there. In Karnataka also the Government of Karnataka is doing it and thereby the production will improve. I am sure, in

due course more production will be there in the private sector and the public sector and decontrol will help bring in investment from the private sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have gone a long way. His question is limited to Bokaro Steel Plant.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are very generous in getting the plinth of my question widened and the Minister is even more generous. The Minister got confused between privatisation and decontrolling the price and distribution. I referred to decontrolling of prices of steel which is not the same as privatisation. Certain parts of the sector could be privatised.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then put your question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, now the prices of steel have been decontrolled. My question is: What is the assessment of the Government in regard to the consequences of decontrol?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, this is a wrong phenomenon in the country. Out of the total production in the country, integrated steel plants produce sixty per cent. Forty per cent of the production is being done by the secondary sector. If you go to Delhi market today the price difference between the private sector and the public sector is Rs. 2500 to Rs. 2700. People are accepting it. But we don't increase. The ex-Finance Minister is here; he will bear me out. We are selling steel at a lower rate. Till today except in respect of excise duty and railway freight we have not increased one paisa. Sir, excise duty has been fixed in the Budget and that is Rs. 250 to Rs. 500. Decontrol also has not affected the market. Rather, because the scrap is coming from outside, the price of scrap has gone down by Rs. 500. I am telling you every fortnight I am monitoring. The prices have not gone out of control due to the Steel Authority. Even in the secondary sector price is still stable. Immediately after decontrol there was a tendency, which has been checked. I am sure...

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: What about cement decontrol?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am not to answer about cement. Sir, this is the real position.

*249. [*Transferred to the 16th March, 1992*].

*250. [*The questioner (Shri Shabbir Ahmad Salaria) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 45 infra].

*251. [*The questioner (Shri Krishna Kumar Birla) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 45-46 infra].

*252. [*The questioner (Dr. Narreddy Thulasi Reddy) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 46 infra].

*253. [*The questioner (Shrimati Ratan Kumari) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 46 infra].

*254. [*The questioners (Shri Sikander Bakht and Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur) were absent. For answer* vide *col.* 47 infra].

Identification of Historical and religious places in Haryana

*255. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:†

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified some places of historical

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sushma Swaraj.